

APR 11 10 May 1968

Chief of Police
Police Dept
City of Dallas, Texas

Re: Ballistics Test
Assassin's gun vs
projectile found.

Sir:

A point I am not sure of is:
Was the bullet (or bullets) fired at witness
Gen. U.S.A. Walker in his Highland Park
Home in Dallas tested ballistically to
prove that the gun found in the
Texas Book Depository fired this
same bullet (or bullets)?

So much - years of book & testimony
has obliterated the fact that Gen. Walker
was shot at in his home in April 1963
and that the assassin-attempting was
not discovered at the time. And recall
he shot thru a window (open as broken
glass was not mentioned in Wall Street Journal
Article); and possibly ~~he~~ left the expended
spent shell (or shells) outside the window.
Two a car must have been employed for
a quick get-away if about Police Patrol
followed up a radio call, witnesses etc.

Gen. Walker is a staunch anti-Communist
I believe. Tho this assassination attempt was
not fruitless. He is now in Washington and
now it seems like the American
shocking way of operating and desperate ha-

Tho how a guy could miss a shot
sure shot at such close quarters and then
make a long shot at moving & obscured
target is incredible. Still the bullet

or better yet the skill is a will to
say positively or absolutely that the
girl employed was the same.
Is there an authoritative official
report on this?

Very truly
Yours

729 N. Robinson William E. Hunter
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A DA-71 10 June 1968

Chief of Police Charles Batchelor
City of Dallas, Texas 75201

(A-1)

Chief Batchelor:

Re your letter 14 May.

My inquiry had to do solely with the General Walker incident of April 1963. Since this took place in a Dallas suburb - Highland Park - I suppose your police file records would show that the case investigation was completed. In turn, this would close the case file.

As it is, from my security news sources of the papers, this American citizen was prompted to make sure the General Walker ^{murder} was closed; as it may be that the subversive persons (or person) who took a pot-shot at the General were still at large.

Not to be alarmist and strictly to utilize due process of law, it can only be noted that the Communist menace so deplored by J. Edgar Hoover and the F.B.I. since 1947 (see "Don't Let the FBI Story") has been greatly aided by Chief Justice Warren + the Supreme Court in not recognizing the menace to our sovereign United States of America; by registering these persons and/or deporting them as un-American aliens. The fact that both assassins of the Kennedy Brothers were Communist; and that recent riot investigating table-rovers are either Communist or not citizen pro-Communist is a terrible argument

against Americans who are heedless of this menace.

The positive angle of ballistics tests to prove the gunshot and gun ownership were available to your Police Dept; and I supposed Police Records would show the results. Also, it could have provided, at the time, a scrutinizable attempt at relation of the incident as to means employed and person (or persons) in the Oakliff, or other suburb, who could have entered Highland Park and attempted the General, so unsuccessfully, at night; and, especially, to bridge the coincidence of finding a really 'perfect' shot on a one-time visit and 'missing' it. It is alarming indeed. Who did it and why?

identity,
transportation,
communication,
financing,
etc

Witnesses
may have
been available
then.

Of course, that is five years ago. The trail would be cold and dim in memory now. Night traffic, at that. (At the time, events spun off so rapidly; and, adversely. One did not wish to distract Police with unwarranted inquiries at such a time; nor to write letters which could swamp the administrative department in a mass of desk-work.)

However, I ~~did~~ wish to purge my conscience by making certain that perpetrators of the dastardly attempt on General Walker were brought to justice; and that the Police Department of Dallas does present a clear record of efficient management in protecting the law and American citizens.

Of course, the General Walker case-file may be in permanent record storage at inaccessible to verify actual final record. Tho a duplicate file could be rendered the Federal Commission.

I trust these angles will be kept in mind. Turning it all over to the Federals, Chief, is overlooking the police duty and responsibility of the City and State to prevent such a Communist (or otherwise) subversion. I believe the City Police, Congress, Highway Patrol could confer and "follow-thru" on such activities; maintaining surveillance; and an active interest in the doings of this inimical group; swapping notes and cooperating within the Law! (Using computer take program.)

Perhaps a gun registration law is required to aid Police Department. Suppose a check-up on Commies, after the Walker incident, had turned up these assassin's articles? You could have issued search warrants for illegal guns & had your men or, at least, seized his weapons. And prevented a tragic disaster.

I'm sure, if put to a referendum vote, supported by CIO and other civic and community and fraternal organizations, such a law could be invoked. Conferring with District Attorney as to prosecutable grounds and making a list of ^{relevant} charges and penalties may aid in stamping out this incipient "fire in the forest" of these Law-breakers, Commies or otherwise.

Other cities, too

I recall at the time I was avidly eager to watch and see that the 'sniper' at General Walker was recognized, found, apprehended, and brought to justice.

It seemed to me that the Dallas Police were sure to justify their reputation of 'getting their man'. These activities to tame this horribly sector of criminality seems required in Dallas, Texas, and U.S.A.

The Law-breaker has broken bonds of society and his oath of allegiance to 'U.S.A.'; — that pattern is plain, and sets him off from his fellow-men, and leads to his discovery and arrest. He has 'busted' the moral and ethic law. So he's got no traffic signal for 'Danger' or 'Stop' — that is how he is found out.

I am sure you will have a stringent and well-considered positive program to combat this menace.

is this
used in
Dallas?

I know Northwestern University; the FBI School; perhaps the University of Texas; as well as the example of Orlando Wilson and the computerized 'area' system employed by Orlando Wilson's efficient super-Police Dept in Chicago may all be models and inspiring ones, for an exemplary Dallas force. There are some great names in Texas Police-work: the Rangers Kleunges; and Hamer; etc.. I know Dallas can live up to these frontier pioneer mission-results of these great policemen.

Today, things are more complex, but every day living has wonderful amenities. It is incredible that such lapses could occur. Yet a slight lead may unravel an entire fabric, as the Sheriff Chief noted of the 46 ~~the~~ leads of which only one lead straight to the criminal; so much ^{more} investigation detective work may be required to trace observed detail (not intuition) of action within our society, ~~and~~ and against it, by the criminal.

I think the Walker incident sniper stuck in my memory; and it seemed important to trace down the perpetrators; and make sure the Dallas Police had 'got their man'.

Thanks sincerely for your letter and accept my appreciation of the often unheralded, hazardous, and terrific responsibility exercised by your Police Department in their great work.

Truly,
William E. Houston

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Note:

The Federal Commission Report is 50 volumes. Positively, a computer would be required to check an item reference, which I suppose you have in Dallas to facilitate reference, more and check-up and trace for your own people work.

Weth